

**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**Friday, September 15, 2023 / 9:00am**  
Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room  
J. S. Clark Administration Bldg. 2nd Floor  
Baton Rouge, LA.

**MINUTES**

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by Board Chair Myron K. Lawson.

The invocation was given by Minister Kenneth Dawson who is a member of The GCM Worship Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kelvin Love, a honor student at Southern University Lab School.

**AGENDA ITEM 3: RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL GUEST AND PRESENTATION –  
Chairman Myron K. Lawson**

A. Above and Beyond Award

Minister Bolden recognized Ms. Golden Smith

**AGENDA ITEM 4: ROLL CALL**

**Roll Call by President-Chancellor Dennis J. Shields**

**Present:** Dr. Leon Tarver - Chairman, Mr. Sam Gilliam –Vice-Chair, Atty Jody Amedee, Mrs. Maple Gaines, Mrs. Ann Smith, Dr. Arlanda Williams and Mr. Myron K. Lawson - Ex Officio

**Absent:** NONE

**AGENDA ITEM 5: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

There was a motion by Dr. Arlanda Williams and second by Mrs. Ann Smith to adopt the agenda.

Motion passed.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 7: ACTION ITEM(s)**

Chairman Lawson introduced Sir Excellency Haidaya Claxton (St. Kitts) who introduced the St. Kitts/Nevis Delegation. S.E. Haidaya Claxton gave comments.

The motion was made by Mr. Sam Gilliam and seconded by Dr. Arlanda Williams to approve Action Items 7A.

Motion Approved.

- A. Request Approval of MOU between SUS and the Ministry of Education of the Federation of St. Kitts Nevis (SUS)

***Affiliation agreement between the Southern University System and the Ministry of Education of the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis whereby qualified residents of St. Kitts and Nevis are afforded opportunities to further their education by attending an institution within the Southern University System.***

Chancellor John Pierre provided brief comments. The motion was made by Mr. Sam Gilliam and seconded by Atty. Jody Amedee to approve Action Items 7B.

Motion Approved.

- B. Request Approval for Curriculum Change in the College of Humanities and Interdisciplinary Studies and John B. Cade Library (SUBR)

Chancellor John Pierre provided brief comments on Action Item C (1-2)

- C. Request Approval of Endowed Professorship Recommendations of Faculty Members Who have been Nominated and Meet the Criteria for Eligibility.

- 1. SUBR - The motion was made by Dr. Arlanda Williams and seconded by Ms. Zazell Dudley to approve Action Items 7C (1).

Motion Approved.

- 2. SULC – The motion was made by Dr. Arlanda Williams and seconded by Mr. Sam Gilliam to approve Action Item 7C (2)

Motion Approved.

Chancellor John Pierre and Dr. Dawn Kight provided comments.

- D. Request Approval of Academic Rank for Librarians (SUBR) - The motion was made by Mr. Sam Gilliam and seconded by Dr. Arlanda Williams to approve Action Item 7D.

Motion Approved.

## **AGENDA ITEM 8: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s)**

- A. CEO Roundtable on Cancer – Going 4 Gold Accreditation Announcement (SULC)

**AGENDA ITEM 9: OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 10: ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Dr. Arlanda Williams to adjourn the meeting.

## **FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

**(Following Academic Affairs Committee)**

**Friday, September 15, 2023**

Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room

J. S. Clark Administration Bldg. 2nd Floor

Baton Rouge, LA.

### **AGENDA**

Board Chair Myron Lawson announced the convening of the Facilities and Property Committee. Chairman Atty Edwin Shorty called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by President-Chancellor Shields

**Present:** Atty. Edwin Shorty – Chairman, Atty Domoine Rutledge – Vice Chair, Dr. Leon Tarver II, Mr. Paul Mathews, Mrs. Ann Smith, Dr. Rani Whitfield, and Mr. Myron K. Lawson, - Ex Officio

**Absent:** None

#### **AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon the motion by Dr. Rani Whitfield and seconded by Mr. Paul Mathews to adopt the agenda.

Motion passed.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEM(s)**

Mr. Kenneth Dawson gave a presentation and update on all campuses per last month's recommendations. He provided a handout with all the information.

The motion was made by Dr. Rani Whitfield and seconded by Mr. Paul Mathews to approve Action Items 5A.

Motion Approved.

A. Request Approval of Preliminary FY 2024-25 Capital Outlay (eCORTS) Submission Recommendation (SUS)

#### **AGENDA ITEM 6: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s)**

A. Facilities Update (SUS)

Mr. Dawson informed the members that the items are in the packet. He provided information on the meeting with the Board of Regents/Deferred Maintenance.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS**

Atty Edwin Shorty recommend that President Shields look at facilities department and get Dawson assistance so he can focus more on projects. President Shields mentioned he have been looking at changes. He and Mr. McClinton have been in discussion.

**AGENDA ITEM 8: ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Dr. Rani Whitfield to adjourn the meeting.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**(Following Facilities and Property Committee)**  
**Friday, September 15, 2023**  
Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room  
J S Clark Administration Bldg. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Baton Rouge, LA 70813  
9:00 AM

**MINUTES**

Board Chair Myron K. Lawson announced the convening of the Finance Committee. Chairman Dr. Arlanda Williams called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by President-Chancellor Shields

**Present:** Dr. Arlanda Williams- Chairman, Mrs. Ann Smith -Vice-Chair, Mr. Sam Gilliam, Mrs. Christy Reeves Atty. Domoine Rutledge, Dr. Leon Tarver II, and Atty. Mr. Myron K. Lawson - Ex Officio

**Absent:** None

**AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon the motion by Ms. Christy Reeves and seconded by Mr. Sam Gilliam the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

NONE

**AGENDA ITEM 5: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s):**

A. Financial Report

**AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Sam Gilliam to adjourn the meeting.

## **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

**(Following Finance Committee)**

**Friday, September 15, 2023**

Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room  
J. S. Clark Administration Bldg. 2nd Floor  
Baton Rouge, LA.

### **AGENDA**

Board Chair Myron K. Lawson announced the convening of the Governance Committee. Vice Chairman Dr. Rani Whitfield called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by President-Chancellor Shields

**Present:** Dr. Rani Whitfield – Vice Chairman, Mrs. Christy Reeves, Atty Edwin Shorty, Dr. Leon Tarver, II, Mr. Jyron Young and Atty. Mr. Myron K. Lawson - Ex Officio

**Absent:** Rev. Dr. Samuel Tolbert – Chairman

#### **AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon the motion by Dr. Leon Tarver and seconded by Mrs. Christy Reeves the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Tracie L. Washington, Esq. – speaking on SUS ADA.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEM(s):**

The motion was made by Atty Edwin Shorty and second by Mr. Jyron Young that Action Item 5A be approved.

Motion Approved

A. Americans with Disabilities Act Policy (Policy Number 6-011)  
*This policy is to outline and unify the System's standards and procedures for ADA compliance in regard to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, its Amending Act of 2008, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Louisiana Employment Discrimination Law, Act 103 of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session, and Act 393 of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session.*

The motion was made by Atty Edwin Shorty and second by Mr. Jyron Young that Action Item 5B be approved.

Motion Approved

B. Risk Management Policy (Policy Number 12-003)

*This policy is to uniform risk management policies and procedures throughout the System in order to achieve better compliance in an effort to protect System employees from accidents and to reduce the System's insurance costs.*

Dr. Appeaning provided summary.

*Atty shorty* He also mentions to the board that the information is listed as an action item because it's a SACSCOC Requirement.

The motion was made by Atty Edwin Shorty and second by Mr. Jyron Young that Action Item 5C be approved.

Motion Approved

C. Request Approval of 2022 – 2023 Board Self Evaluation.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS:**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Jyron Young to adjourn the meeting.



## **PERSONNEL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**(Following Governance Committee)**

**Friday, September 15, 2023**

Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room  
J. S. Clark Administration Bldg. 2nd Floor  
Baton Rouge, LA.

### **MINUTES**

Board Chair Myron Lawson announced the convening of the Personnel Affairs Committee. Chair Mr. Sam Gilliam called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by President Shields

**Present:** Mr. Sam Gilliam - Chairman, Mrs. Christy Reeves–Vice-Chair, Atty Jody Amedee, Ms. Zazell Dudley, Dr. Leon Tarver, II., Dr. Arlanda Williams and Mr. Myron Lawson - Ex Officio

**Absent:** None

### **AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon the motion by Dr. Arlanda Williams and seconded by Ms. Zazell Dudley the agenda was recommended for adoption with the following amendments: Action Item 5B (1), addition (Item 5B(9) and deletion (Item 5E).

There was a unanimous vote for the additions and deletions.

### **AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. Howard White – Alum on behalf of College of Engineering
2. Lee Hampton – on behalf of the SU Alumni Society of College of Engineering

### **AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEM(S)**

The motion was made by Dr. Leon Tarver and second by Dr. Arlanda Williams that Action Item 5(A-B) be approved globally with Chairman Myron K. Lawson removing himself from the voting.

Motion Approved

Atty Rutledge stressed how important the interim positions are and there should be a robust search. He asked President Shields what his plan for the positions was. President Shields said a search committee will be created quickly.

Atty Rutledge asked Dr. Lealon Martin to come to the podium. Dr. Martin gave comments and greeted the board members.

A. Request Approval of Personnel Action on Positions Equal to or Greater than \$60,000  
(SUNO)

| Name                | Position/Campus   | Description   | Waived/Search | Salary       | Funding Source |
|---------------------|---|---|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1. Precious Alridge | AVC Student Affairs/<br>Director of Student Development<br><b>Title Change</b>                            | Title Change <b>ONLY</b> due to reorganization          | <b>N/A</b>    | \$112,000.00 | State/Federal  |
| 2. David Bocage     | Associate Director/<br>Academic Coach for Student Support Services<br><b>Title Change</b>                 | Title Change and Salary Increase for Newly Funded Grant | <b>N/A</b>    | \$65,000.00  | Federal        |
| 3. Rebecca Chaisson | Dean of the School of Social Work<br><b>Equity Increase</b>   | Equity Increase for the Dean of Social Work             | <b>N/A</b>    | \$105,000.00 | State          |
| 4. Linda Frederick  | Executive Director of Trio College Program<br><b>Title Change</b>   | Title Change and Salary Increase for Newly Funded Grant | <b>N/A</b>    | \$89,000.00  | Federal        |
| 5. Heather Freeman  | AVC for Enrollment Management & Student Success/<br>Director of University College<br><b>Title Change</b> | Title Change <b>ONLY</b> Due to Reorganization          | <b>N/A</b>    | \$105,000.00 | State/ Federal |
| 6. Atia Washington  | Executive Director for Admissions, Recruitment and Dual Enrollment<br><b>Title Change</b>                 | Title Change and Salary Increase Due to Reorganization  | <b>N/A</b>    | \$85,000.00  | State          |
| 7. Constance Woods  | Director, Connecting Minority Communities<br><b>New Appointment</b>                                       |   | <b>Search</b> | \$72,000.00  | Federal        |

B. Request Approval of Personnel Action on Positions Equal to or Greater than \$60,000  
(SUBR)

| Name                    | Position/Campus  | Description   | Waived/Search | Salary        | Funding Source |
|-------------------------|--|---|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Jourdan Hilaire      | Interim Director of First and Second-Year Experience                     | Salary increases due to additional duties <b>and responsibilities</b> | <b>N/A</b>    | \$66,000.00   | State          |
| 2. Anthony Jackson      | Interim VC for Enrollment Management<br><b>New Appointment</b>           |   | <b>N/A</b>    | \$140,000.00  | State          |
| 3. Lealon Martin        | Dean of College of Science and Engineering<br><b>New Appointment</b>     |   | <b>Search</b> | \$205,000.00  | State          |
| 4. Patrick Mensah       | Senior Associate VC of Academic Affairs<br><b>New Appointment</b>        |   | <b>Waived</b> | \$ 204,000.00 | State/Federal  |
| 5. Cedric Noel          | Director of the Student Union and Scheduling<br><b>Salary Adjustment</b> |   | <b>N/A</b>    | \$60,000.00   | State          |
| 6. Avis O'Bryant-Chaney | Interim AVC for Student Success<br><b>New Appointment</b>                |   | <b>N/A</b>    | \$96,000.00   | State/ Federal |

|                  |  |  |     |             |                |
|------------------|--|--|-----|-------------|----------------|
| 7. Jovan Thomas  | Interim Dean of University College<br><b>New Appointment</b>       |  | N/A | \$90,000.00 | State/ Federal |
| 8. Michael Wells | Interim Executive Director of Admissions<br><b>New Appointment</b> |  | N/A | \$81,000.00 | State          |
| 9. Phillip Smith | Asst. Golf Coach/Development Coordinator<br><b>New Appointment</b> |  | N/A | \$70,000.00 | State          |

The motion was made by Dr. Arlanda Williams and seconded by Atty Jody Amedee, that Action Item 5C be approved.

Motion Approved

Mr. Alfred Harrell provided comments on item 1 and 4.

C. Request Approval of Personnel Action on Positions Equal to or Greater than \$60,000 (SUS)

| Name                   | Position/Campus   | Description   | Waived/Search | Salary       | Funding Source                               |
|------------------------|---|---|---------------|--------------|--|
| 1. Christopher Freeman | Vice President of Advancement Operations<br><b>New Position</b>                     | Position recommended to support the Capital Campaign              | Search        | \$130,000.00 | Southern University System Foundation (SUSF) |
| 2. Morkieth Phillips   | Executive Director of the Honore' Center<br><b>Title Change and Salary Increase</b> | Duties have expanded to include programming throughout the system | Waived        | \$95,000.00  | State  |
| 3. John Pierre         | Interim Executive Vice President/Chief Academic Officer                             | 6-month appointment to assist with SUBR Operations                | N/A           | \$54,000.00  | State  |
| 4. Biyaka Williams     | Vice President of Institutional and Legacy Giving<br><b>New Position</b>            | Position recommended to support the Capital Campaign              | Search        | \$140,000.00 | Southern University System Foundation (SUSF) |

The motion was made by Dr. Leon Tarver and seconded by Ms. Zazell Dudley, that Action Item 5D be approved.

Motion Approved

D. Request Approval of Recommendation for Prior Service Credit at Other Institutions for Associate Professor Ryan Stoa (SULC)

~~E. Request Approval of Faculty Merit Increases (SUNO)~~

**AGENDA ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS**

Atty Shorty ask that the board fully support The Honore' Center.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Dr. Arlanda Williams to adjourn the meeting.

## **SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**(Following Personnel Affairs Committee)**

**Friday, September 15, 2023**

Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room  
J. S. Clark Administration Bldg. 2nd Floor  
Baton Rouge, LA.

### **AGENDA**

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Myron K. Lawson.

Roll Call by President Shields

#### **PRESENT**

Atty Jody Amedee, Ms. Zazell Dudley, Mr. Raymond Fondel, Jr., Ms. Maple Gaines, Mr. Myron Lawson, Mr. Paul Matthews, Ms. Christy Reeves, Atty Domoine Rutledge, Atty Edwin Shorty, Mrs. Ann Smith, Dr. Leon Tarver, II, Rev. Dr. Rani Whitfield, Dr. Arlanda Williams and Mr. Jy'Ron Young

#### **ABSENT**

Dr. Samuel Tolbert

#### **AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Upon the motion by Dr. Rani Whitfield and seconded by Mrs. Ann Smith the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dr. Albert Samuels – (Action Item 6E) – he provided comments in reference to SUBR. He said SUBR campus needs a permanent chancellor, and the structure should change.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: RESOLUTIONS**

Dr. Allen Vital, Chief of Staff read resolutions for the following:

Paula Annette Admas-Dennis

- Erica Allison Bilbo
- Matthew Causey
- Christiana Melacon Chaisson
- Clifford Roy Collins

There was a motion by Atty Domoine Rutledge to approve the read resolutions and Mr. Raymond Fondel second the motion.

Motion approved.

## AGENDA ITEM 6: ACTION ITEM(s)

There was a motion by Mrs. Christy Reeves and second by Mr. Paul Matthews to approve action item 6A.

Motion passed.

A. Approval of Minutes of the August 18, 2023, SUS Board of Supervisors Meeting

There was a motion by Mr. Raymond Fondel and second by Mr. Jyron Young to approve action item 6B.

Motion passed.

B. Approval of Committee Recommendations.

There was a motion by Mrs. Ann Smith and second by Dr. Leon Tarver to approve action item 6C.

Motion passed.

Chancellor John Pierre / Mrs. Monica Hawkins / Dr. Michael Stubblefield responsible for Item 6C. Chairman Lawson asked Mrs. Monica Hawkins to come to podium and give a summary of her deliverables.

C. Request Approval of CEA between SUBR and SUNO, SULC, SUAREC, and SUSLA (SUBR, SUNO, SULC, SUAREC, and SUSLA). **Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between SUBR and SUNO, SULC, SUAREC, and SUSLA to memorialize obligations to assist in achieving the outcomes in SUBR's grant from LDH.**

There was a motion by Atty Domoine Rutledge and second by Dr. Rani Whitfield to go into executive session. All board members were present except for Rev. Dr. Samuel Tolbert.

There was a motion by Mr. Paul Matthews and second by Ms. Zazell Dudley to come out of executive session. All board members were present except for Rev. Dr. Samuel Tolbert.

D. Annual Evaluation of President-Chancellor

***Modification of John Pierre's additional title from Interim Executive Vice President to Interim Executive Vice Chancellor of the SUBR Campus; Reinstatement of Dr. James Ammons as the Executive Vice President of the Southern University System; Recommendation to Deconsolidate the Roles of President-Chancellor; and Initiation of a Search for a New Chancellor for SUBR***

E. Request Approval for the Restructuring of the Organizational Chart for the Southern University System and Baton Rouge Campus. (SUS/SUBR)

In reference to item 6E, President Shields makes the recommendation to change the course and have a chancellor of SUBR which will be the senior executive for SUBR.

There was a motion by Mr. Sam Gilliam and second by Dr. Arlanda Williams to accept the recommendation.

Motion passed and approved.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s):**

- A. Presidential Report
- B. Chancellor's Reports

**AGENDA ITEM 8: OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 9: ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Dr. Rani Whitfield to adjourn the meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute 42:17, executive session may be required.